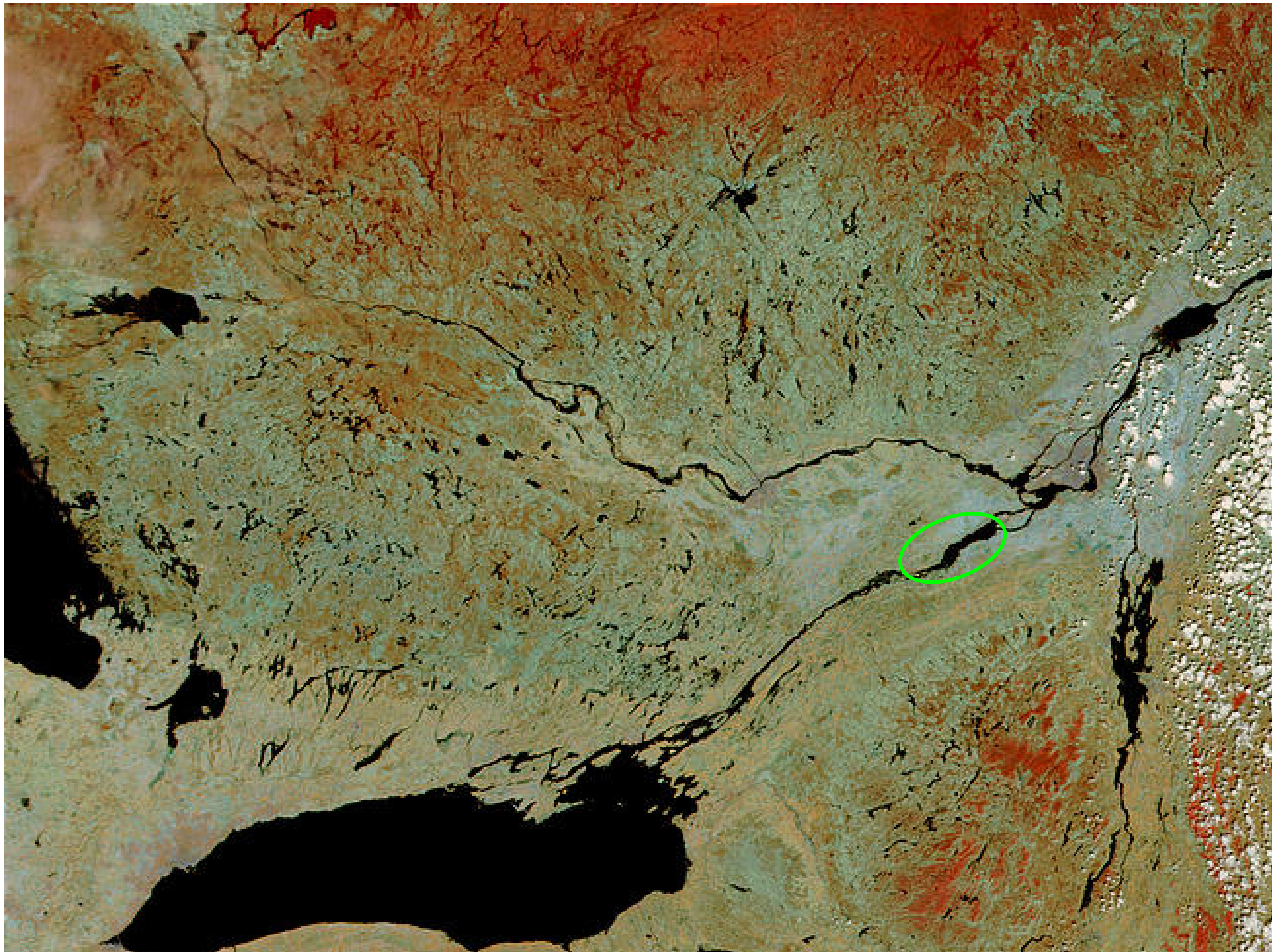


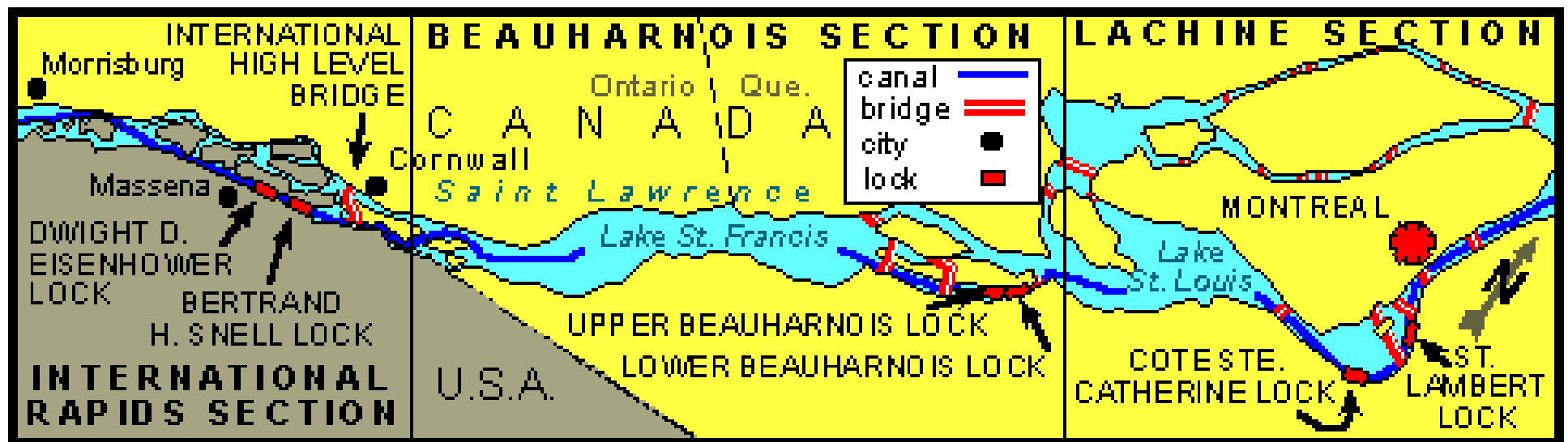
Steps toward the development of a management plan for lake sturgeon in the Lake St. Francis portion of the St. Lawrence River

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Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministère des Richesses naturelles





Workshop

- 2 day workshop (Sept. 22nd and 23rd, 2004)
- 44 attendees representing 20 agencies (provinces, states, Feds, First Nations, universities, industry, & other organizations)
- held at Moses Saunders Dam, Cornwall (Canada)
- OPG, MNR, Golder Associates



Objectives:

- ascertain what work has been conducted or being conducted in Lake St. Francis
- to determine if there is a need to develop a management plan for lake sturgeon in Lake St. Francis
- If so, develop a framework for this plan



Workshop Format

- Three modules:
 - current status of Lake St. Francis
 - “The Fish”
 - management of Lake St. Francis lake sturgeon



Status Module

- determined not enough information was known on lake sturgeon in Lake St. Francis
- Inadequate information:
 - abundance of adults and juveniles
 - historical harvest
 - genetics
 - habitat requirements of different life stages

“THE FISH”

- Focused on what is known and what is lacking
- Information gaps:
 - habitat use specific to each life stage
 - numbers required to maintain a viable population
 - effects of barriers to movement and the population
 - effects of contaminant loading and introduced species
 - recruitment success at different life stages

Management goals

- determine current populations
- collate and document historical data
- identify and monitor limiting factors and bottlenecks
- develop monitoring programs for different life stages

Key Messages

- develop partnership between jurisdictions/agencies to share knowledge, workload and costs
- community involvement pertinent to gather knowledge, garner support and retain funding

